

## CITY OF PORTSMOUTH

## HEALTH REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 1939

BY

A. B. WIEGELMANSON

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L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.S.

Medical Officer of Health.

Medical Officer of Health to the Port of Portsmouth.

Chief Administrative Medical Officer to the  
City Council

and

T. ERNEST ROBERTS

M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Acting Medical Officer of Health

from September, 1939.

including

The Report of the Public Analyst.

H E A L T H      C O M M I T T E E

1938 - 39.

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The Right Worshipful the Lord Mayor :

ALDERMAN L. N. BLAKE.

Chairman:

ALDERMAN A. E. ALLAWAY.

Vice-Chairman:

COUNCILLOR W. H. R. PREWER.

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Aldermen:

F. W. WHITING, J.P.

W. H. ANDREWS.

Councillors :

R. C. PALMER.

A. W. WEST.

A. KILLE.

W. T. FELLOWS.

J. A. GRIFFITHS, J.P.

J. C. JUNIPER.

F. MILES.

Mrs. L. J. RAMSDEN.

Mrs. M. H. CHILDS.

J. T. TRIGGS.

J. P. D. LACEY, J.P.

W. CLEMENTS.

J. J. MAHOHEY.

H. T. CLIFTON.

J. ELLIS-JONES.

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The following ladies were co-opted to serve on  
the Sub-Health ( Maternity and Child Welfare )  
Committee:

Mrs. K. A. RANGER.

Mrs. E. G. LACEY.

Mrs. R. PARKER, J.P.

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To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

Madam and Gentlemen,

At the request of the Ministry of Health the report on the Health of the City for 1939, which we have the honour to present, is an interim one only in view of the increasing pressure of work in the Public Health Department and the need for strict economy in the use of paper. The present Report is, therefore, confined to essential and urgent matters which have affected the Public Health of Portsmouth during the year. Arrangements have been made, however, for careful preservation of all records, in order that, after the termination of the war, a report can be made dealing more fully with the period from the beginning of 1939 to the end of the last complete year. Delay in presenting this Annual Report has been due to depletion of office staff, and lateness in receiving statistics provided by the Registrar General as a result of the war.

On September 2nd, on the outbreak of war, the Medical Officer of Health was mobilised with the Territorial Army as Lieut-Colonel commanding the 130th Portsmouth Field Ambulance, R.A.M.C., T.A., and the School Medical Officer and Senior Assistant Medical Officer of Health was appointed Acting Medical Officer of Health.

#### HEALTH STATISTICS.

The statistics for 1939 are influenced by the fact that, although the estimated resident population, including non-civilians, as at the middle of the year, namely 260,300, is taken for the birth rates, a population estimate, namely 244,900, constructed so as to allow for the exclusion of non-civilians during the last quarter and for the different areal assignment of deaths, adopted for the first three and last quarters respectively, is taken for the general death rate. For infant and maternal mortality rates, the number of births, according to the system of areal assignment, is taken. This explains why the corrected death rate for Portsmouth for 1939, i.e. 12.49, is greater than for 1938, i.e. 12.21, although the number of deaths was actually smaller, i.e. 3,058 in 1939, as compared with 3,154 in 1938.

Features of interest are:-

- (a) A further increase - by 1,900 to 260,300 - in the estimated population at mid 1939.
- (b) The highest number of marriages on record, 3,425, i.e. 833 more than in the previous year. The birth rate, however, remained practically the same.
- (c) A slight rise in the death rate to 12.49, as compared with 12.1 for the general death rate for England and Wales.
- (d) A marked fall in the infantile mortality rate from 60.15 to 52.23, due to fewer deaths from diarrhoea and pneumonia.
- (e) A rise in the maternal mortality rate from 2.28 to 3.08.



## CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The year was marked by the absence of any epidemics and a fall in the incidence of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria, due partly to school closure after the outbreak of hostilities. Both these diseases were also of a less severe type, no deaths from Scarlet Fever being recorded and only 6 from Diphtheria.

A fresh campaign for immunisation against diphtheria was launched in January 1939, and, by the end of the year, 16,000 school children and pre-school children had been immunised - representing about 45% of the entire school population. In view of the greatly increased risks to children from Diphtheria, resulting from war conditions - overcrowding in reception areas, sleeping in shelters, etc. - immunisation against diphtheria has assumed greater significance.

Deaths from gastro-enteritis were greater than normal, though less than in the previous year.

There was a further slight increase in the cancer death rate - 1.74, as compared with 1.69 per 1000 living for the previous year.

When local hospitals were cleared on the outbreak of war, 83 tuberculous patients were sent home and 33 were evacuated to Ventnor Sanatorium, Langstone Sanatorium was closed and no beds were for a time available locally, for such cases. A few weeks later, K. Block at the Infectious Diseases' Hospital was re-opened, and in November Langstone again became available. The Committee subsequently agreed to additional cases being sent to sanatoria outside Portsmouth. The Dispensary was transferred, for reasons of safety, to the Central Child Welfare Centre, Trafalgar Place. The statistics for 1939 show a decrease in the total number of new cases of tuberculosis, from 363 pulmonary cases in 1938 to 281, and from 49 non-pulmonary cases to 47. There is a similar decrease in the mortality, from 159 pulmonary cases in 1938 to 138, and from 24 non-pulmonary cases to 21.

The outbreak of war had not, up to the end of the year, resulted in any increase in the incidence of venereal disease. The number of children attending for the first time with congenital syphilis was the lowest since the Centre was opened in 1917.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

The total number of samples of food and drugs, taken for analysis by the Public Analyst, was 1205, of which 50, or 4.1% were adulterated, as compared with 4.2% for the previous year. Of the 50 adulterated samples, 29 were formal samples, and in respect of 6 of these a caution was given by the Medical Officer of Health. In two cases no proceedings were instituted, for after visiting the farms it was found that the milk did not come up to the legal standard. In regard to the remaining samples fines and costs were inflicted ranging from £1.0s.6d. to £7.2s.0d.

No seizure of meat was necessary during the year, all food stuffs found unfit for human consumption having been surrendered.

It is to be regretted that preparations for the erection of a Public Abattoir mentioned in the last Report have had to be postponed on account of the war.

## HOUSING.

The final stage of the City Council's Five Years Housing Programme had been reached when war was declared.

During the year, as the result of an extensive survey of working class houses, a second Five Years Housing Programme 1939-1944 was prepared, comprising 8 clearance areas and 1006 dwellings, found to be below the standard required by the



Housing Act 1936. These preparations have been suspended by the War.

During the year and prior to September 2nd abatement of overcrowding was effected in respect of 155 families totalling 852 persons. With the outbreak of war much overcrowding was abated by the evacuation of children and expectant mothers and by the departure of service men.

#### MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

On the outbreak of war, Portsmouth was required to staff four Emergency Maternity Units in the Counties of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. This required 18 midwives, of whom 6 were Municipal Midwives. Approximately 180 expectant mothers, in the later stages of pregnancy, were taken by coach and steamer direct to the Emergency Maternity Homes, and 588 others, in the earlier stages of pregnancy, were evacuated by train, with pre-school children, on 2nd September to reception areas. The temporary withdrawal of midwives caused some dislocation of the Municipal Domiciliary Service, which was increased by the early return to Portsmouth of many expectant mothers, although the midwives themselves were not released from the Emergency Maternity Homes until the end of the year.

The Child Welfare Clinics were centralised at Trafalgar Place, all branch clinics, with the exception of Cosham, being closed.

Under the new regulations of the Central Midwives Board, since January 1939 only the first part of the period of training for pupil midwives has been carried out at Saint Mary's Hospital; the second part of the course may be taken at either the Naval Maternity Home, Portsmouth, the Maternity Hospital, Swindon, or in other approved hospitals.

#### HOSPITAL SERVICES.

Even before 1939 consideration had been given to the inclusion of all the Hospitals in Portsmouth as part of the Ministry of Health's Emergency Medical Services for the whole country, but from the beginning of the year progress became more rapid as the European situation deteriorated, and at the outbreak of war they were ready to play an effective part in the treatment and evacuation of war casualties.

Saint Mary's Hospital and the Infectious Diseases' Hospital were classified as Grade 1A Hospitals with the Royal Portsmouth and Queen Alexandra Hospitals, whilst Langstone Sanatorium, a section of Saint James' Hospital and of Saint Mary's Institution, were classified as Grade II Hospitals. Protection against blast, additional fire fighting measures, and at Saint Mary's Hospital a Cleansing Station for gas cases were provided, and steps were taken to guard against possible failure of lighting or water supply. Semi-underground shelters for hospital staffs were also provided, and in the case of Saint Mary's Hospital an underground operating theatre was adapted and equipped.

The Ministry's Scheme envisaged the evacuation of casualties, after 24 hours, from Portsmouth Hospitals to Base Hospitals in the Chichester Group. Thus, after the preliminary decanting of certain classes of patients at the beginning of the war, the local hospitals were able to reserve about 1,000 vacant beds for Air Raid Casualties. In November Langstone Sanatorium was withdrawn from the list, and reverted to its original function.



A local branch of the Ministry of Health's Civil Nursing Reserve was established in February 1939, administered by a local committee, including the Medical Superintendents and Matrons of hospitals in the City, and with the Matron of the Royal Hospital as Honorary Secretary. Saint Mary's, the Royal, and Queen Alexandra Hospitals were used as training schools, and on the outbreak of war about 120 Trained, 90 Assistant Nurses, and over 400 Nursing Auxiliaries had been enrolled and were ready for service in hospitals and first aid posts. Of this number 271 Nursing Auxiliaries were already in training.

#### BLOOD TRANSFUSION.

As the result of experience in Spain, it was recognised that the transfusion of blood from living donors would not be sufficient to meet the demands for treatment of war casualties, a large proportion of whom would require blood transfusion. Accordingly a co-ordinated scheme was prepared by the Medical Officer of Health in June 1939 for the typing, collection and storage of blood from a large number of donors in the Portsmouth A.R.P. group, including Gosport, Fareham, Havant and Emsworth. Typing was carried out, in the first place, by the Pathologist at the Royal Portsmouth Hospital, and later at Saint Mary's Hospital, where the Deputy Medical Superintendent has done valuable work in perfecting the technique of blood storage and extraction of plasma. No serious call has as yet been made on the hospital, but stocks of blood and plasma are constantly maintained and distributed to all hospitals in Portsmouth and the district around.

#### SAINT MARY'S HOSPITAL.

Owing to evacuation and restriction on admissions, the number of patients admitted decreased considerably in the fourth quarter of the year, so that for the whole year the number admitted was 5,441 as compared with 6,017.

Hutments to provide temporary additional accommodation for the nursing staff were erected in the grounds of the hospital during the year.

#### INFECTIOUS DISEASES' HOSPITAL.

On the day prior to the outbreak of war all patients except those still infectious or acutely ill were sent home or evacuated.

During the year 888 cases were admitted - a decrease of 723 compared with 1938.

#### A.R.P. CASUALTY SERVICES.

This new medical service, begun in Portsmouth as early as 1935, has been gradually grafted on to the Public Health Services. All members of the Department are involved whilst at the same time carrying on with their normal duties.

On the outbreak of war, the Portsmouth Casualty Services consisted of:-

(a) 10 First Aid Depots with 84 First Aid Parties, and 60 Standby Ambulances.

(b) 10 First Aid Posts i.e., the model Post at Milton Road, 7 adapted schools, and the Out-Patients' Departments of the Royal and Eye and Ear Hospitals.

(c) Casualty Clearing Hospitals providing 973 Class 1, and 266 Class 2 beds at Saint Mary's Hospital and Institution, Infectious Diseases' Hospital, St. James' Hospital, Royal Hospital, Eye and

Ear Hospital and Queen Alexandra Hospital.

(d) Mustard laundry at the Infectious Diseases Hospital, if required.

(e) Twelve ambulance coaches for inter-hospital transport of casualties.

(f) Base hospitals in the County area.

The authorised personnel of the Posts and Depots is now 1,840 of whom 767 may be whole-time paid. The staffs of the hospitals are augmented by whole-time and part-time members of the Civil Nursing Reserve. The majority of the personnel of the Posts are also members of this Reserve.

Throughout the year preparations for an emergency proceeded systematically, so that, when war broke out, there were over 2,000 volunteers enrolled, the Hospitals were prepared, the adaptation of the seven First Aid Posts in schools was completed, or nearly completed, and equipment had been packed ready for immediate despatch to the various Hospitals, Posts and Depots. The second half of the model First Aid Post at Milton Road was in course of erection. There were, naturally, many things still to be done, and for a few weeks the strain on the Department was tremendous. Unfortunately, some hundreds of those who had volunteered for service, many of whom had been trained, did not come forward, and it was, therefore, necessary to enrol numbers of absolutely untrained men and women.

The work on the Posts was completed within a very short time, and immediate steps were taken to train the new recruits. Training took the form of lectures, practices, exercises, etc, and the Matron of the Royal Hospital very kindly gave permission for A.R.P. personnel to assist at the Out-patients' Department there which provided valuable **practical** experience.

In the interval, R.A.M.C. personnel of the Portsmouth Field Ambulance reinforced the Casualty Service in the First Aid Depots for a period of six weeks from the beginning of the war until the Unit's departure to join its Division in the Field.

Due to the calls of industry and the Armed Forces, a large number of trained men were later lost to the service and difficulty was experienced in getting replacements. So much so, that selected women were used in First Aid Parties.

One of the biggest factors which had to be contended with during the period to December 31st, 1939, was boredom of personnel. No raids occurred and the personnel, once trained, were standing by for long periods with little to do. Variations in the methods of training, competitions, social functions, and physical training were all used to break the monotony.

The first four months of the war was a time of intense preparation for the air raids which did not, fortunately, materialise.

Preparations for a "National Emergency", from the beginning of the year under review and the subsequent outbreak of war, imposed a large amount of additional work upon the whole staff of the Health Department, which was soon depleted by the departure of some of its members to the Services. A severe strain was imposed upon those remaining, but they responded with enthusiasm to all demands and have worked long hours without complaint.



To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee we are greatly indebted for their sympathy and encouragement under difficult conditions, and we would express our appreciation of help freely given by the chief officials of other Departments of the Corporation, the Hospital Officer of the Ministry of Health and the Group Officer.

We have the honour to be, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servants,

A.S. WILLIAMSON.

Medical Officer of Health.

T. ERNEST ROBERTS.

Acting Medical Officer of Health.  
(from September).



# SUMMARY FOR 1939.

Civil Population (estimated to middle of 1939) (a) 260,300 B.R.  
(b) 244,900 D.R.

## 1.-GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area in Acres (land and inland water)	...	...	9,223
Population (Census, 1931)	...	...	Total 249,283
Number of Inhabited Houses	...	...	63,508
Rateable Value (1st April, 1939)	...	...	£1,930,227
Sur represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	£7,452
Average number of persons in each house (Census 1931)			4.5
Average number of persons per acre (Census 1931)			31.3
Total rainfall	...	28.75 inches	730.4 millimetres

## 2.-EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total	Male	Female	
LIVE BIRTHS:				
Legitimate .. ..	3,630	1,852	1,778)	Rate per 1,000
Illegitimate .. ..	202	102	100)	population
Total .. ..	3,832	1,954	1,878)	14.72

STILLBIRTHS:				
Legitimate .. ..	116	65	51)	Rate per 1,000
Illegitimate .. ..	12	9	3)	total births
Total .. ..	128	74	54)	32.32

DEATHS .. ..	3,058	1,560	1,498)	Rate per 1,000
			)	population
			)	12.49

Deaths from diseases and accidents of pregnancy and childbirth:  
From Puerperal Sepsis .. 3 From other Puerperal causes .. 9

Mortality rate per 1,000 total births:  
From Puerperal Sepsis ...0.77 From other Puerperal causes 2.31  
Total maternal mortality rate .. .. 3.08

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:  
All Infants per 1,000 live births (197) .. .. 52.23  
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births(185) 51.82  
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births(12)59.41

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	428
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	1
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	4
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	..	..	..	..	..	36

## COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS YEAR.

		1939 Population Total-- (a) 260,300 (b) 244,900		1938 Population Total - 250,400	
		No.	Rate per 1000 living	No.	Rate per 1000 living
Births	...	3,832	14.72	3,807	14.73
Deaths	...	3,058	12.49	3,154	12.21
"	Principal Zymotic ... Diseases	42	0.17	83	0.32
"	Small-pox	-	-	-	-
"	Measles ...	1	0.00	10	0.04
"	Scarlet Fever	-	-	8	0.03
"	Diphtheria	6	0.03	15	0.06
"	Whooping Cough	4	0.02	1	0.00
"	Fever (Typhoid & Para Typhoid)	-	-	1	0.00
"	Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	31	0.12	48	0.19
"	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	138	0.56	132	0.63
"	Cancer ...	428	1.74	436	1.69
"	Influenza	42	0.17	29	0.11
		No.	Rate per 1000 Births	No.	Rate per 1000 Births
"	Under 1 year of age	197	52	229	60

AVERAGE DEATH-RATE for previous Ten years (1929-1938) .. 12.32



Table showing the Population, Marriages, Inhabited Houses, Births and Deaths, for the year 1939, and the ten preceding years.

GROSS NUMBERS

Year	Estimated Civil Population	No. of Inhabited Houses	Marriages	Registered Births	Total Number of Deaths		
					Total all ages	Under 1 year	Under 5 years
1939	260,300	63,508	3,425	3,832	3,058	197	237
1938	258,400	62,894	2,592	3,807	3,154	229	277
1937	256,200	62,829	2,418	3,812	2,947	167	217
1936	251,400	62,746	2,245	3,914	2,971	194	258
1935	250,200	62,150	2,298	3,707	2,959	171	220
1934	248,900	61,500	2,217	3,948	3,077	175	282
1933	251,200	60,529	2,140	3,864	3,125	203	306
1932	253,100	59,780	2,164	4,092	3,101	246	338
1931	228,900	58,106	2,067	4,454	2,950	239	336
1930	242,000	57,591	2,242	4,409	2,856	250	415
1929	242,000	56,861	2,017	4,519	3,345	293	438
Average 10 years 1929-38.	248,230	60,498	2,239	4,053	3,049	213	309

# S A I N T M A R Y ' S H O S P I T A L

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Statistics relating to In-patients during the year 1939,  
compared with 1938.

	Year <u>1938</u>	Year <u>1939</u>
1. Total number of admissions (including infants born in Hospital)	6017	5441
2. Number of Women confined in Hospital.	1088	1020
3. Number of Live Births	1032	939
4. Number of Still-births	68	64
5. Number of Deaths among the newly-born, (i.e., under four weeks of age) *	34	30
6. Number of Maternal Deaths among women confined in Hospital	8	9
7. Total number of Deaths	967	885
8. Total number of discharges (including infants born in Hospital)	5092	4780
9. Number of beds occupied		
(a) Average during the year	958	811
(b) Highest on 2nd February 1939		1014
(c) Lowest on 5th September 1939		557
10. Number of Surgical operations under general anaesthetic (excluding dental operations)	1016	918

\* This figure relates only to children born in Hospital.



# I N F E C T I O U S   D I S E A S E S

All infectious diseases notified during the year are given below:-

Disease	Cases Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	404	388	-
Diphtheria .. .. .	137	133	6
Enteric Fever .. .. .	2	2	-
Malaria .. .. .	1	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia .. .. .	33	12	3
Acute Primary & Influenzal Pneumonia .. .. .	56	4	135
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	5	5	5
Acute Polio-myelitis .. .. .	3	3	-
Erysipelas .. .. .	60	27	1
Dysentery .. .. .	3	-	-
Undulant Fever.. .. .	1	1	-
Measles .. .. .	6	2	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .. .. .	15	2	2
Whooping Cough.. .. .	6	-	4
Tuberculosis .. .. .	304	57	159

## DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Report of the progress of the above Scheme for the twelve months ended 31st. December, 1939.

1. The 47 Schools in Portsmouth have been circulated and leaflets distributed to 30,910 children.
2. Approximately 75% of the parents, representing 23,107 children have agreed to their children being immunised.
3. 9% of the parents, representing 2,987 children, have informed the Health Department that their children have already received treatment.
4. 30,561 injections have been given since the commencement of the Scheme on the 31st January, 1939, and 16,000 school children fully immunised.
5. 1,343 applications for treatment have been received from the Welfare Centres, and to date 1,177 pre-school children have been fully immunised.
6. The war and subsequent closing of the Schools has somewhat affected the smooth working of the Scheme, but clinics have been held twice weekly for school children not evacuated. Contact has been made with certain outside Authorities and some 952 children are being dealt with by these Authorities, and it is anticipated that more will be dealt with later.
7. Over 25,000 immunisation cards have been prepared and a careful record kept of each individual case.
8. The average cost to the Corporation of a Diphtheria patient in Hospital is £25.
9. The cost of immunising each child has not exceeded 1/-.  
(excluding Schick Test.)
10. The number of admissions to Hospital of Diphtheria during 1939 were 152 (of which 67 were admitted during the quarter ending March 1939) compared with 302 for 1938, and 303 for 1937.
11. Some 7,000 children still remain to be dealt with.

### CASES ADMITTED DURING 1939.

	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	TOTALS	Cases from outside authorities	Nett Portsmouth cases.
	52	43	38	38	73	37	59	21	8	13	11	17	410	22	924
	34	18	15	8	13	10	20	7	7	9	3	3	151	18	302
	-	-	2	-	-	1	2	1	-	-	3	1	10	1	11
	9	3	3	6	5	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	27	-	13
	-	2	-	5	7	3	7	1	5	5	-	-	35	1	8
	2	2	5	2	2	2	1	1	-	1	1	1	20	3	11
	3	2	2	3	4	4	1	5	2	2	-	-	28	1	47
	1	-	1	1	1	-	-	3	2	1	-	-	10	2	20
	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	3	-	-
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	-	1	1	1	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	5	-	-
	2	1	4	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	-
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	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	1	7	1	100
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	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-
	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	3
	-	-	-	2	2	6	7	14	3	-	-	2	34	-	4
	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
	-	1	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	-
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	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
	-	-													



Showing the work of the Dispensary during 1939.

DIAGNOSIS	PULMONARY						NON-PULMONARY						TOTAL		GRAND TOTAL  pre war post War	
	Adults		Children		Adults		Children		Adults		Children		Children			
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		
A.-NEW CASES examined during the year (excluding contacts):-																
(a) Definitely tuberculous	125	86	6	2	5	7	6	9	130	93	12	11	188	58		
(b) Diagnosis not completed	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	6	3	-	14	1		
(c) Non-tuberculous	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	130	171	55	20	309	47		
															617	
B.-CONTACTS examined during the year:-																
(a) Definitely tuberculous	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	4	1	4	7	4		
(b) Diagnosis not completed	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	5	5	8		
(c) Non-tuberculous	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	64	51	31	133	27		
															184	
C.-CASES written off the Dispensary Register as:-																
(a) Recovered	-	4	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	5		
(b) Non-tuberculous (including any such cases previously diagnosed and entered on the Dispensary Register as tuberculous)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	154	255	101	59	569			
D.-NUMBER OF CASES on Dispensary Register on December 31st:-																
(a) Definitely tuberculous	549	443	18	15	45	40	29	40	594	483	47	56	1180			
(b) Diagnosis not completed	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	12	7	7	39			

1. Number of cases on Dispensary Register on January 1st	1086	2. Cases written off during the year as Dead (all causes)	..	..	..	151
3. Number of attendances at the Dispensary (including Contacts)	4591	4. Number of visits by Nurses or Health Visitors to homes for Dispensary purposes	..	..	..	5799
5. Number of Specimens of Sputum, etc., examined	1937					

# TUBERCULOSIS

## NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1939.

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary M.	Pulmonary F.	Non-Pulmonary M.	Non-Pulmonary F.	Pulmonary M.	Pulmonary F.	Non-Pulmonary M.	Non-Pulmonary F.
0 to 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 to 5	3	-	4	3	-	-	2	2
5 to 15	4	3	5	9	2	-	1	-
15 to 25	32	50	4	9	11	18	5	1
25 to 35	33	50	3	3	12	14	4	2
35 to 45	41	17	1	2	22	8	2	-
45 to 55	34	12	2	1	22	11	-	-
55 to 65	10	7	-	-	8	3	1	-
65 and upwards	3	2	1	-	6	1	1	-
TOTALS	160	121	20	27	83	55	16	5

\* Includes primary notifications and new cases which came to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health by other means.

N.B. - Of the total number of 159 deaths registered from all forms of tuberculosis, 15, or 9 per cent., had not been notified during life as suffering from the disease.



## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

**MIDWIVES.**- The number of midwives practising in the City on December 31st, 1939, including 15 Municipal Midwives, was 60 (73). They attended 2,967 (2,750) cases, of which 2,361 (2,189) were attended in the capacity of midwives and 606 (561) as maternity nurses. Medical assistance was sent for in 295 (944) or 37.9 (43) per cent. of midwives' cases (see Table XXXIV). The total amount paid by the Local Authority to medical men called in by midwives was £1,033. 10s. (£1,088 5s. 6d.) out of which £573 6s. 11d. (£571 15s. 6d.) was received from patients as premiums under the Insurance Scheme. Midwives sent for medical assistance in 42.6 (51.4) per cent. of their cases when the patient was insured under the Scheme, and in 33.6 (34.6) per cent. where not insured. The inspection of the midwives' bags, books and appliances was carried out regularly during the year.

**DOMICILIARY SERVICE OF MIDWIVES.**- During the year 1212 (1,112) cases were booked and 1,028 (958) patients delivered, representing 6.6 (7.0) cases per midwife per month, excluding holidays and sickness, which is equal to an average of 79.2 (84) cases per midwife per annum. The average weekly number of bookings was 23.5 (20.5).

**MATERNITY AND NURSING HOMES.**- There are 33 (34) Maternity and Nursing Homes registered under the provisions of the Nursing Homes Registration Act, 1927.

**ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CLINICS.**- The following table gives details of the work carried out at the Council's Ante-natal and Post-natal Clinics during the year:

CLINIC	ANTE-NATAL				POST-NATAL			
	No. of Patients		Attendances		No. of Patients		Attendances	
	1939	1938	1939	1938	1939	1938	1939	1938
Fratton (three Clinics weekly)	728	831	2600	2361	78	42	78	43
Cosham (one Clinic weekly)	157	158	552	502	5	20	5	20
Saint Mary's Hospital (five Clinics weekly)	1521	1531	7635	9371	316	322	631	749
Totals	2406	2520	10787	12234	399	384	714	812

The number of patients attending Ante-natal Clinics in Portsmouth represents 73.01% (75.57%) of the women confined during the year.

# INFANT MORTALITY.

Nett Deaths from Stated Causes at  
various ages under 1 year of age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 week.	1 - 2 weeks.	2 - 3 weeks.	3 - 4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	4 weeks and under 6 months.	3 months and under 6 months.	6 months and under 9 months.	9 months and under 12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 year.
Measles								1		1
Whooping Cough.			1		1	1	2	1		5
Syphilis.						1	1			2
Cerebral Haemorrhage.	3				3					3
Bronchitis.						3				3
Pneumonia.	1				1	7	9	3	1	24
Diarrhoea.						11	10	7	4	32
Gastritis.						1	2			3
Congenital Malformations.	3	2			10	6	4	2		22
Marasmus, Debility, Atrophy.	4	1	1		6	3	4			13
Prematurity.	53	4	2	1	60	5				65
Injury at Birth.	3				3					3
Atelectasis.	6				6	1				7
Suffocation.				1	1					1
Non-tubercular Meningitis.								1		1
Convulsions.	1				1	1				2
Influenza.									1	1
Other Causes.	4			1	5			3	1	9
Totals.	83	7	4	3	97	40	32	18	10	197
Previous Year.	68	9	16	18	111	37	46	25	10	229



# INSTITUTION TREATMENT OF MATERNITY CASES.

	Saint Mary's Hospital	Royal Naval Maternity Home
No. of Maternity beds (exclusive of isolation and labour) complement before the emergency	70	21
Complement at 31st December, 1939	60	17
No. of Patients admitted ... ..	1205	341
Average duration of stay ... ..	14 days	16 days
No. of cases delivered by:-		
(a) Midwives ... ..	861	311
(b) Doctors ... ..	159	29
Cases in which medical assistance was sought by midwife	145	Doctor always available
No. of cases notified as:		
(a) Puerperal Fever	Nil	Nil
(b) Puerperal Pyrexia	14	2
No. of cases of pemphigus neonatorum	4	Nil
No. of infants not entirely breast- fed while in Institution	71	57
No. of cases notified as ophthalmia neonatorum	4	2
Result of treatment	Recovered	Recovered

HOME VISITING.- The Health Visitors paid 28, 840  
(32, 142) visits during the year:-

	Total No. of Visits.	
	1939	1938
First Visits ... ..	3,577	3,594
Subsequent visits to children from 0 to 1 year of age	10,874	9,731
Ditto to children from 1 to 2 years of age	5,202	5,430
Ditto to children from 2 to 5 years of age	4,664	3,510
Ditto to children from 3 to 5 years of age	6,058	5,402
Visits to cases attending Centres ... ..	260	173
Visits to ante-natal cases ... ..	205	103
Visits to cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum	7	8
Visits to midwives ... ..	5	3
Other Visits ... ..	710	889

CHILD WELFARE CENTRES. - The various child welfare centres showing the number of new patients, attendances, etc., are set out below:-

CENTRES	Attendances	New Patients	Seen by the Medical Officer
Fratton (2 afternoons a week 1.1.39 - 3.9.39) (5 afternoons a week from 3.9.39)	12,706	1,250	4,133
Eastney (2 afternoons a week 1.1.39 - 3.9.39)	8,823	374	1,444
Portsea (1 afternoon a week 1.1.39 - 3.9.39)	3,386	154	1,225
Stamshaw (1 afternoon a week 1.1.39 - 3.9.39)	3,981	216	1,207
Cosham (1 afternoon a week).	6,246	324	1,573
Copnor (1 afternoon a week 1.1.39 - 3.9.39)	7,175	336	1,039
Totals	42,322	2,714	10,671
Totals for 1938	49,876	2,869	12,593

Dried milk was issued from the Child Welfare Centres to 1,649 (2,133) applicants - 166 (500) expectant mothers, 248 (412) nursing mothers, 1,255 (1,221) infants - at a total cost of £4,253 (£5,326). Of this sum £2327 (£2,290) was recovered from the patients

Attendances at Child Welfare Centres during the year 1939, classified according to the age of the child concerned, were as follows:-

Children from 0 to 1 years of age	...	...	30,323
" " 1 to 2	"	"	6,923
" " 2 to 5	"	"	5,076

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42,322  
(49876)



# SANITARY INSPECTION

The following summary shows the particulars of the work carried out:-

## DRAINAGE DEFECTS.

Drains cleared .. .. .	321
Drains cleared in Workshops .. .	-
Drains repaired or relaid .. .	135
Drains ventilated or ventilating shafts repaired ..	44
New water-closet pans provided .. .	65
New Pedestal closet pans provided .. .	49
Water-closet fittings repaired .. .	204
Flushing apparatus to water-closets provided ..	31
"                    "                    "                    in Workshops ..	2
Separate and additional sanitary accommodation provided ..	2
Water-closets disconnected from Workshops ..	2
"          Screened from Workshops .. .	3
"          Ventilated .. .	5
"          Cleansed .. .	25
Gratings provided to gully traps .. .	29
Glazed stoneware sinks provided .. .	20
Sink waste-pipes repaired, trapped or renewed ..	161

## OTHER DEFECTS.

Rain-water spouting cleansed or repaired .. .	392
Roofs repaired .. .	640
Weather slating repaired or external walls protected	312
Floors, stairs or doors repaired .. .	514
Sashes, lines, sills, glazing or sash frames repaired ..	1185
Damp courses provided or repaired .. .	42
Houses or parts of houses cleansed or distempered ..	197
"                    "                    "                    repaired ..	685
Sanitary dustbins provided .. .	21
Dust chutes cleansed or repaired .. .	3
Space beneath floors ventilated .. .	61
Yards, stables, sties, etc., repaved .. .	107
Overcrowding in dwelling-houses abated .. .	-
Foundation of house concreted .. .	8
Water supply laid on or water services repaired ..	74
Workshops cleaned or distempered .. .	19
Workshop floors repaired .. .	1
Workshop roofs repaired .. .	4
Workshops or parts of Workshops repaired .. .	37
Cooking ranges or firegrates repaired or renewed ..	205
Coppers repaired or renewed .. .	43
Other nuisances in dwelling-houses abated .. .	275

## OFFENSIVE MATTER, ETC.

Manure and refuse removed .. .	31
Stagnant water removed .. .	4
Animals removed .. .	8
Bedding cleansed or destroyed .. .	6

## SLAUGHTERHOUSES, STABLES, ETC.

Yards, stables, sties, etc., cleaned .. .	21
Bakehouses cleansed .. .	4

## BYELAWS.

Notices under Nuisance Bye-laws complied with ..	3
--	---

## GENERAL INSPECTION

DWELLING HOUSES. - 4,734 (7,265) dwelling houses were inspected, and 15,482 (15,359) re-inspections were made whilst work ordered to be carried out was in progress.

COMPLAINTS. - 1,568 (1,903) complaints were made at the office and received attention.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES. - 50 (50) visits were made to the 4 (4) registered Common Lodging Houses.

FACTORIES. 527 (267) visits were made to the Factories, which have been well kept, and 141 (61) visits to out-workers' premises. 11 complaints were received from H.M. Inspector of Factories, all of which received attention.

SHOPS ACT 1934. - (461 Inspections.

OLD DRAINS. - 993 (1687) old drains were tested or retested.

NEW SANITARY FITTINGS. - 3,409 (3,058) sanitary fittings were examined.

OCCUPATION CERTIFICATES. - 860 (1,081) Occupation Certificates were issued with respect to new buildings.

SANITARY CERTIFICATES. - 2 (6) Sanitary Certificates with respect to the sanitary condition of the drains and fittings of old dwelling houses have been issued.

INCREASE OF RENT AND MORTGAGE INTEREST (RESTRICTIONS) AMENDMENT ACT, 1933. - Under this Act, No (9) certificates relating to dwelling houses not being kept in a reasonable state of repair were granted to tenants.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT. - 354 (525) visits were made to rat infested premises, and 3 (1) notices were served.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES. - 813 (1,512) cases of infectious diseases were visited and investigated, and 1,132 (1,896) rooms were disinfected by the disinfecter.



P O R T S A N I T A R Y I N S P E C T I O N .

AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE PORT DURING THE YEAR, 1939.

	No.	Tonnage.	No. Inspected by M.O.H. P.S.I.	No. of Vessels found de- fective.	No. of Vessels on which defects were re- medied.	No. of Vessels with infectious disease.
Foreign.	204	41,257	- 60	3	3	Nil
Coastwise.	649	233,946	- 72	9	9	Nil
Total	853	305,203	- 132	12	12	Nil

HYGIENE OF CREWS' SPACES.

Nationality of Vessel.	No. inspected during year 1939.	Defects of original construction.	Dirt, Vermin and other conditions prejudicial to health.
British.	72	Nil	9
Foreign.	60	Nil	3





THE PUBLIC ANALYST'S REPORT

The Chemical Laboratory,  
16, Arundel Street,  
Portsmouth.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Health and Housing Committee.

Ladies and Gentlemen.

I beg to submit my Report on the work carried out  
in my Department during the year ending 31st December 1940.

The total number of samples and specimens examined  
is smaller than that for the previous year. This is almost entirely  
due to the Diphtheria examinations being about 1,500 less for the  
year. The reason for this is, primarily, that the incidence of  
Diphtheria has been extremely low in Portsmouth and, indeed, for the  
whole country. Also it will be remembered that the Schools were closed  
from the month of August until the close of the year.

The number of samples of Food and Drugs is also  
about 100 less and this is accounted for when it is remembered that,  
on the outbreak of the War, one Member of the Staff was already in the  
Territorial Army and the two remaining Members were on permanent  
A.R.P. Work for some weeks.

It was decided that, in view of the proposed  
transfer of my Department to Trafalgar Place, arrangements for which  
were well in hand, the Laboratory should not be moved to the Northern  
Secondary School. Preparations for the move to the new Laboratory are  
still being made in spite of the difficulty of obtaining the necessary  
materials for the structural alterations to Trafalgar Place.

I wish to record my appreciation and thanks to  
all the Members of my Staff for their loyal co-operation throughout  
the year.

I remain, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

Reginald F. Page.  
Public Analyst.

## Report of the Public Analyst.

During the year ending 31st, December 1939 the number of samples and specimens examined was 4,047 which may be briefly summarised as follows:-

	<u>1939</u>	<u>1938</u>
Food & Drugs Act	1205	1,306
Milk of Special Description	158	202
Miscellaneous Bacteriological examinations	75	-
Water	39	30
Sewage & Sewage Effluents	552	603
Fertilisers & Feeding Stuffs	11	5
Police & Coronor	40	27
Miscellaneous	41	83
Bacteriological examinations (Diphtheria)	<u>1,926</u>	<u>3,574</u>
	<u>4,407</u>	<u>5,830</u>

### Food & Drugs Act.

1205 samples were examined of which 50 were returned as adulterated. This gives a percentage figure of 4.1 which compares favourably with the last available figures for England & Wales which gives a total percentage of adulteration of 5.6 per cent.

Legal Proceedings have been instituted in eleven cases and the total amount received in Fines was £25-7s.

### Milk.

527 samples of Milk were analysed of which 30 were found below the necessary legal standard giving a percentage adulteration of 5.6 as against a percentage of adulteration of 7.6 for England & Wales.

83 samples were taken at St. Mary's Hospital and other Public Institutions in the City. All of these were genuine and of good quality.

104 samples of Tuberculin Tested Milk were examined bacteriologically and on 17 occasions the milk failed to pass the prescribed test.

18 samples of Accredited Milk were also examined bacteriologically and 6 samples failed to satisfy the Regulations.

36 samples of Pasteurised Milk which represents milk supplied to Schools were received for examination and of these 2 only contained an excessive number of Bacteria.

### ICE CREAM.

28 samples of Ice Cream were examined both Chemically and Bacteriologically during the months from May to July.

Generally speaking the results of these examinations are disappointing for whereas Ice Cream prepared by large Manufacturers in properly constructed Ice Cream Plants are, on the whole satisfactory the cleanliness of this Product when made by small Manufacturers leaves much to be desired and, in some cases, is extremely unsatisfactory.



## BUTTER AND MARGARINE

89 samples of Butter and 49 samples of Margarine were received for analysis and no cases of the addition of "Foreign Fat", "Excessive Water" or the addition of Preservatives were found.

The samples were therefore returned as genuine.

## SPIRITS

34 samples of Whisky and 9 samples of Gin were examined and of these all of the samples of Gin were genuine. Eight of the samples of Whiskey were found to be diluted beyond the Legal Limit of 35 Degrees Under Proof.

This is an extremely high percentage of adulteration amounting as it does to 23 per cent.

## DRUGS

79 samples under this heading were taken and 7 were not in accordance with the standards laid down in The British Pharmacopoeia.

The samples returned as adulterated or not up to standard were Parrish's Chemical Food (2 samples), Ammoniated Tincture of Quinine (2 samples), and Carbolic Ointment (3 samples).

No Legal Proceedings were taken in any of these cases but cautionary letters were subsequently sent to the Vendors of the samples.

## POLICE AND CORONER

On 8 occasions the help of the Department has been sought by the City Police involving the analysis of 28 different Exhibits.

Four cases of death have been investigated for the City Coroner. In one case Chloral was found in the Viscera, another case was a death from suspected Lead Poisoning in which a large amount of material was analysed, including Bones.

A large "Foreign Body" found in the Caecum after death proved, upon analysis, to be a Gall Stone of Unique size and shape.

In one case no substance of a poisonous nature was found.

## MISCELLANEOUS

58 samples have been analysed under the above heading which includes samples submitted by the Medical Officer of Health, the City Engineer and various other Departments of the Corporation.

Under this heading are also included samples submitted by Ratepayers in a private capacity and for the analysis of which a Fee is paid. The Fees from this source have amounted to £38. 8s. and this amount has been paid to the City Treasurer.

## BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS (Diphtheria)

Diphtheritic Material has been received from the following sources:-

Medical Practitioners	..	..	1,400
School Clinic	..	..	526
			<hr/>
			1,926

The Laboratory has been open on every Sunday and Bank Holiday throughout the year.



### CITY WATER SUPPLY

17 samples of the City Water Supply have been taken during the year for Bacteriological Examination. These have shown that the high standard of bacterial purity normally associated with the City Water has been uniformly maintained.

### SEWAGE AND SEWAGE EFFLUENTS

Weekly examinations of the Sewage and Sewage Effluents from Cosham and Farlington have been made comprising the analysis of 552 samples.

The results have shown that the three systems of Sewage Disposal have worked satisfactorily and that a high grade Effluent has been maintained throughout the year.

REGINALD P. PAGE

Public Analyst